

Message Text

SECRET

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /058 W

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O 070944Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7106

S E C R E T MANILA 9829

FROM USDEL 74

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS: QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY
AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ JUNE 21

REF: BAGUIO 0029

1. ON JULY 6, ROMUALDEZ ASKED ME WHEN HE COULD EXPECT
ANSWER TO HIS LETTER OF JUNE 21 TRANSMITTED REFTEL. I
REPEATED MY EARLIER STATEMENT THAT ANSWER WOULD REQUIRE
TIME FOR INTERAGENCY CLEARANCE.

2. ON JULY 7, AFTER TALKING WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS,
ROMUALDEZ REPEATED HIS REQUEST. HE SAID THAT THE QUESTIONS
IN THE LETTER WERE NOT HIS, BUT HAD BEEN WRITTEN OUT BY
PRESIDENT MARCOS. HE ADMITTED THAT MANY OF THEM HAD BEEN
ANSWERED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY OUR VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS,
BRIEFINGS, AND VISITS. NEVERTHELESS, THE PRESIDENT WAS
ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN REPLY.

3. COMMENT: ROMUALDEZ SUGGESTED, AT ONE POINT, THAT SIZE
OF PHILIPPINE REQUEST FOR "DEFENSE SUPPORT" WOULD DEPEND
IN SOME MEASURE ON ASSESSMENT OF PHILIPPINE UNILATERAL
DEFENSE OBLIGATIONS DEDUCED FROM THIS LETTER. I SAID THAT
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PHILIPPINE BUDGETARY AND ECONOMIC ABILITY TO SUSTAIN

FORCES AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE FAR MORE CONTROLLING, AND
MATTER WAS DROPPED. IT WAS PRESUMABLY INTRODUCED AS
AN ALIBI FOR CONTINUING SORRY PHILIPPINE PERFORMANCE IN
PROVIDING FIGURES FOR ARTICLE XIX QUID.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: IF PROPERLY STATED, LETTER CAN BE
USEFUL IN WHITTLING DOWN WHATEVER FIGURE OF "DEFENSE
SUPPORT" MAY EMERGE FROM PHILS. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN I MAY
EXPECT TO RECEIVE TEXT.

SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: MARR, PDIP, RP, US, (ROMUALDEZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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